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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Hungary

TOPIC Motorized Artillery Regiment [REDACTED] Artillery Brigade Headquarters,

Artillery Officers' School, Signal Battalion and Infantry in Kis-Kun Halas

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1A

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 21 August 1953

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

25X1X 1. [REDACTED] the motorized artillery regiment [REDACTED] was quartered in the Szegedi barracks installation in Kis-Kun Halas (Y 6/N 70). This barracks installation was located about 2 km southeast of Kis-Kun Halas on the south side of the road to Szeged (Y 7/T 17). The installation had been built in 1950 and consisted of 4 x 3-story and 2 x 2-story buildings as well as garages, gun sheds, a repair shop and a service station.

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2. The motorized artillery regiment [REDACTED] was organized into a regimental headquarters, a regimental headquarters battery including a reconnaissance platoon, a telephone platoon and a radio platoon, the 1st, 2d and 3d Bn and the supply platoon.

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3. The 1st Bn which was commanded by Lieutenant Lajos Koestles, 25 years old, included the battalion headquarters and the 1st and 2d Btry. The personnel of this battalion consisted of members of the 1922 through 1926 classes who had not yet served previously and received training in 2-month courses and trained personnel of these classes. The two batteries consisted of the battery headquarters, the telephone and radio platoon and the 1st and 2d Gun Platoon. Each gun platoon was assigned 1 officer as platoon leader and consisted of 4 groups each of one group and gun leader, 4 gunners and 5 assistant gunners. The strength of one battery was about 5 officers, 15 NCOs and 120 personnel. The 1st Btry which was commanded by Lieutenant Janos Szabo, 32 years old, performed training on 8 x 57-mm AT guns detached (sic) by the 2d Bn and the 2d Btry on 8 x 76-mm field guns detached (sic) by the 3d Bn.

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4. The 2d Bn consisted of a headquarters, and the 3d and 4th Btry and conducted training for personnel of the 1930 class who made up about 80 percent of the soldiers, the 1929 and the 1931 classes who served their term of service. The armament of the battalion consisted of 22 x 57-mm AT guns and its strength, [REDACTED] was about 280 artillery men.

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5. The 3d Bn with headquarters, 5th and 6th Btry was equipped with 16 x 76-mm field guns. Its personnel, as with the 2d Bn, chiefly consisted of members of the 1930 class and several artillery men of the 1929 and 1931 classes.

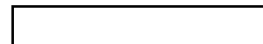
6. The artillery regiment was equipped with 30 weapon carriers, 5 jeeps and 2 x 3.5-ton trucks and 2 x 1.5-ton trucks.

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7. The training during the 2-month course included 2 hours of political indoctrination and 4 hours of service of the piece drill daily and 5 hours of basic training weekly as well as of field and combat training. Firing with live ammunition which involved 7 x 76-mm field guns and was performed against mobile tank dummies over a distance of about 3 km was held once with each gun firing two shots. Two hits were scored. Two third of the retrained personnel were promoted to corporals and one third to NCOs. <sup>2</sup>
8. An artillery brigade headquarters was accommodated in a 3-story building at the main square across from the large church in Kis-Kun Halas and was the superior office to motorized artillery regiment [redacted] Officers, NCOs and personnel with red service color were on duty there. [redacted] heard officers of the regiment mention that they went to the brigade headquarters and that the commanding officer of the brigade was a major. 25X1C 25X1A
9. An artillery officers' school was located in the Szegedi barracks installation Kis-Kun Halas. Its strength was about 100 soldiers. The students were red service color but no insignia of rank. [redacted] 25X1X 25X1X  
[redacted] the artillery officers' school was commanded by a major and was subordinate to the artillery brigade in Kis-Kun Halas. [redacted] that the course lasted for six months. 25X1X
10. The signal battalion located at the Szegedi barracks installation in Kis-Kun Halas had an estimated strength of not less than 300 signal men. The soldiers of this unit wore brown service color. They frequently marched out with radio and telephone equipment. <sup>3</sup>
11. An infantry unit which was estimated at battalion strength and whose soldiers wore green service color was located at the barracks installation on the north edge of Kis-Kun Halas prior to late March 1952. <sup>4</sup>
- 25X1A 1. [redacted] Comment. The barracks installation was previously reported and, in April 1951, quartered soldiers with red service color.
- 25X1A 2. [redacted] Comment. Motorized artillery regiment [redacted] was reported for the first time. The armament of 57-mm AT guns as well as 76-mm field guns which possibly were Soviet SIS-3 guns and were used for firing with live ammunition against mobile tank dummies and, thus, were apparently planned to serve as AT guns tends to indicate that the regiment was an AT regiment. 25X1A  
[redacted] 25X1A  
[redacted] The short term training and retraining of older classes including the 1922 through 1926 classes [redacted] 25X1A  
[redacted] were previously reported. The information given confirms that the 1929 through 1931 classes served their term of service in spring of 1952.
- 25X1A 3. [redacted] Comment. The brigade headquarters, the artillery officers' school and the signal battalion were not previously reported. The artillery officers' school which possibly was an AT officers' school may conduct courses for reserve officers or reserve officers aspirants as it appears rather unlikely that a brigade headquarters should have a school of its own for the training of regular officers. Available information indicated that the service color for signal troops was dark blue while the brown service color was worn by motor transport troops.
- 25X1A 4. [redacted] Comment. Rifle units were previously reported stationed in Kis-Kun Halas. Soldiers with green service color were previously observed in the old bicycle barracks installation in the north section of the town in 1951.

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